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JUN 11 2007

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the first paragraph of the Specification beginning on line 5 of page 1 as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of, and claims the benefit[[,]]  
under 35 U.S.C. § 120[[,]] of, pending U.S. Application No. 09/665,305, entitled  
"Method and System of Managing Credit for the Electronic Trading of Financial  
Instruments," filed September 19, 2000 (issued as U.S. Patent No. 7,110,972 on  
September 19, 2006).